## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /020 R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/FA:LLSNEAD:SMD APPROVED BY OES/OFA/FA:LLSNEAD EUR/CE: VGRAY

-----021442 261640Z/66

R 251904Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

UNCLAS STATE 020098

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, GE, XN

SUBJECT: 1978 GDR ATLANTIC FISHERY ALLOCATION

REF: BERLIN 43

EMBASSY REQUESTED TO REPLY TO GDR NOTE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE RECOGNIZES THE ECONOMIC DISLOCATION OF FISHING VESSELS OF THE GDR AND OTHER COUNTRIES CAUSED BY THE SHARP REDUCTION IN ALLOCATIONS OF FISH AVAILABLE FOR ALLOCATION IN THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FOR 1978. IN COMPARISON TO 1977, THE REDUCTION IN SURPLUSES AVAILABLE FOR FOREIGN ALLOCATIONS IS APPROXIMATELY 51 PERCENT. SURPLUSES HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED IN 1978 ON A COUNTRY BY COUNTRY BASIS ACCORDING TO (1) HISTORICAL FISHING PATTERNS, (2) RECIPROCAL FISHING INTERESTS, (3) COOPERATION WITH U.S. AUTHORITIES IN FISHERY RESEARCH, AND (4) COMPLIANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF THE FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976. THE ONLY SPECIES UNCLASSIFIED

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AVAILABLE FOR DIRECTED FOREIGN FISHING IN 1978 IN THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC ARE ATLANTIC HERRING AND SQUID. THE GDR HAS NOT CONDUCTED A TRADITIONAL FISHERY FOR THESE SPECIES. GDR FISHERIES OFF THE U.S. COAST IN 1977

CONSISTED OF DIRECTED FISHERIES FOR ATLANTIC MACKEREL AND HERRING. IN THE CASE OF EACH OF THESE SPECIES NO

SURPLUS AVAILABLE FOR FOREIGN FISHING WAS IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF THE FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976. THUS IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO ALLOCATE DIRECTED FISHING ON THESE STOCKS BY THE GDR OR ANY OTHER FOREIGN COUNTRY. SIMILARLY, BECAUSE OF THE OVERALL REDUCTION IN OTHER SPECIES WHICH HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF TRADITIONAL FISHERIES BY OTHER COUNTRIES, THE DEPARTMENT WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO ALLOCATE THESE OTHER SPECIES TO THE GDR.

THE U.S. CAPACITY TO TAKE ITS ESTIMATED HARVEST OF HAKES AND SQUID WILL BE REVIEWED BY JUNE 15, 1978. ALTHOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS REVIEW MAY REPEAT MAY RESULT IN SOME REVISION IN THE TOTAL ALLOWABLE LEVEL OF FOREIGN FISHING, THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT THE SITUATION THIS YEAR WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE GDR TO INITIATE NEW FISHERIES ON THESE SPECIES. HOWEVER, IN THE FUTURE, AS FISHERY STOCKS OFF THE U.S. COAST REBUILD, THERE MAY BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FOREIGN COUNTRIES TO INCREASE THEIR CATCHES OFF THE U.S. COAST. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: FISHING INDUSTRY, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 25 jan 1978 Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE020098
Document Source: CORD

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: LLSNEAD:SMD Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** 

Film Number: D780039-0154

Format: TEL From: STATE

**Handling Restrictions:** 

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780123/aaaaatdb.tel

Line Count: 84 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 855309e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN OES

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 BERLIN 43

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 02 mar 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a

Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3715129 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: 1978 GDR ATLANTIC FISHERY ALLOCATION

TAGS: EFIS, GC, XN To: BERLIN

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/855309e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014